

REMARKS

Claims 47-61 are cancelled herein. Claims 20-21 were previously cancelled.

Accordingly, claims 1-19 and 22-46 are pending.

Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, a requirement was made under 35 U.S.C. §121 and §372 to elect a single invention to which the claims must be restricted. The Examiner has identified the following groups:

Group I, claims 1-46, drawn to a panel structure with voids and elongate reinforcing members located within at least one of the voids; and

Group II, claim 47-61, drawn to a method of attaching sheets using localized heat.

It is noted that claims 20-21 were previously cancelled in a prior amendment of the application and, therefore, Group I comprises of claims 1-19 and 22-46.

In response to this restriction requirement, the applicant hereby elects, without traverse, claims 1-19 and 22-46 of Group I to be examined on their merits. Although claims 47-61 of Group II are withdrawn from consideration herein, as well as cancelled herein, the applicant reserves the right to present these canceled claims in one or more divisional applications.

Election of Species Requirement

In the Office Action, a requirement also was made under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to elect a single disclosed species. The Examiner has identified the following species:

A. Figs. 1a-1c, 5a

B. Figs. 2a-2c

C. Figs. 3a-3c

D. Fig. 4, 5b

E. Fig. 6

F. Figs. 7a, 7b

G. Figs. 8a, 8b

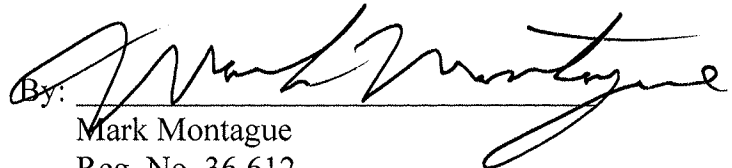
In response to this election of species requirement, the applicant hereby elects, without traverse, species A, Figs. 1a-1c and 5a, for prosecution on its merits. It is submitted that claims 1-14, 16-19, 22-36 and 41-44, are readable on species A. Accordingly, claims 1-14, 16-19, 22-36 and 41-44 are submitted for examination in this application.

Also, claims 1 and 22 are believed to be generic. Should either of these generic claims be found in condition for allowance, it is submitted that the claims directed to the non-elected species be examined on their merits and held to be in allowable form.

Applicant reserves the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to those claims in the instant application which are eventually not examined on the merits.

An early and favorable examination of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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